

## County Attorney

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### Department Overview

The Office of County Attorney prosecutes all felony crimes committed in the County, as well as all misdemeanor crimes committed outside of the limits of the incorporated cities and towns. The Office handles all abuse and neglect cases and juvenile cases. It advises crime victims in a competent and professional manner. The Office of County Attorney promotes public safety and ensures offender accountability by handling an increasing criminal caseload; advocating for victims and victim's rights; facilitating financial restitution for victims; creating and refining processes to deal with criminal justice issues; providing sound legal advice to all offices, departments, and local government entities; and providing good representation for the County in all civil cases.

Staffing for the office includes: six administrative support positions; seven criminal, youth and juvenile prosecutors, three civil attorneys, the County Attorney; and one victim/witness support positions. The department also reviews, monitors, and bills third party insurance for payment of mental evaluations within the County.

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### Department Goals

- To protect public safety and ensure offender accountability by handling the ever increasing criminal caseload.
- To advocate for victims and victim's rights.
- To facilitate financial restitution for victims.
- To create and refine processes to deal with criminal justice issues.
- To provide sound legal advice to all County offices, departments and local government entities (special districts).
- To provide good representation for the County in all civil cases.

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### Recent Accomplishments

- The sexual assault team has improved the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases in Gallatin County
- The County Attorney filed Montana's first enforcement action regarding unlawful diversion of water
- The civil staff dealt with myriad development issues such as county-wide zoning, transfer of development rights, and water resources



Judge Guenther Memorial Center – Fall 2008

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### County Attorney

#### Department Budget

Object of Expenditure	Actual FY 2008	Final FY 2009	Actual FY 2009	Start-Up FY 2010	Request FY 2010	Preliminary FY 2010	Final FY 2010
Personnel	\$ 1,102,420	\$ 1,199,979	\$ 1,114,283	\$ 1,137,448	\$ 1,195,755	\$ 1,186,912	\$ 1,189,232
Operations	177,627	239,194	260,989	227,577	222,448	233,448	233,448
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Outlay	5,774	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers Out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,285,821</b>	<b>\$ 1,439,173</b>	<b>\$ 1,375,272</b>	<b>\$ 1,365,025</b>	<b>\$ 1,418,203</b>	<b>\$ 1,420,360</b>	<b>\$ 1,422,680</b>

#### Budget by Fund Group

General Fund	\$ 1,285,821	\$ 1,439,173	\$ 1,375,272	\$ 1,365,025	\$ 1,418,203	\$ 1,420,360	\$ 1,422,680
Special Revenue Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Project Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enterprise Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Internal Service Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trust & Agency Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,285,821</b>	<b>\$ 1,439,173</b>	<b>\$ 1,375,272</b>	<b>\$ 1,365,025</b>	<b>\$ 1,418,203</b>	<b>\$ 1,420,360</b>	<b>\$ 1,422,680</b>

#### Funding Sources

Tax Revenues	\$ 687,047	\$ 693,987	\$ 663,173	\$ 658,232	\$ 658,232	\$ 693,987	\$ 653,497
Non-Tax Revenues	532,010	560,011	535,146	531,159	584,336	560,011	562,937
Cash Reappropriated	66,763	185,175	176,953	175,635	175,635	166,362	206,246
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,285,821</b>	<b>\$ 1,439,173</b>	<b>\$ 1,375,272</b>	<b>\$ 1,365,025</b>	<b>\$ 1,418,203</b>	<b>\$ 1,420,360</b>	<b>\$ 1,422,680</b>

#### Department Personnel

No. of Positions	FT/PT	Title	FTE
1	Full-Time	County Attorney	1
1	Full-Time	Chief Deputy Co. Attorney	1
9	Full-Time	Deputy County Attorney	9
2	Full-Time	Legal Secretary III	2
2	Full-Time	Legal Assistant	2
2	Full-Time	Administrative Support	2
1	Full-Time	Property Witness Assistant	1
<b>18</b>		<b>Total Program</b>	<b>18</b>

## County Attorney

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### 2010 Budget Highlights

#### Personnel

- Funding for one deputy county attorney proposed to be reduced in the Start-Up Budget is being funded by a one-time payment from the City / County Drug Forfeiture account

#### Operations

- Increase of \$10,000 for Mental Evaluations – due to increase costs / utilization. Decrease in Operating accounts of \$15,746 for Building Maintenance.

#### Capital

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### County Commission Goals/Department Response

The County Commission established a set of overarching goals for the county government. Listed below are the County Commission's goals, followed by the methods by which the County Attorney Office is striving to fulfill those goals.

#### Exceptional Customer Service

- The office has seen only one not guilty verdict in a felony criminal case in the last two years.
- Deputies all obtained guilty verdicts in their first felony jury trials.
- The Civil Division opened 606 files on planning, contract, and litigation matters.

#### Be Model for Excellence in Government

- Continue and Enhance Victim Advocacy office.
- Meet public demand for civil health and zoning code enforcement.

#### Improve Communications

- Training and Staff meetings for improved communications.

#### To be the Employer of Choice

- Training and Staff meetings for improved communications.
- Maintain wages commensurate with private sector.

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### County Attorney

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#### WORKLOAD INDICATORS / PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Workload Indicators		Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected
Indicator		FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
1.	Felony requests for prosecution	341	341		
2.	New Misdemeanor cases	806	806		
3.	Requests for Prosecution-Felony & Misdemeanor	428	428		
4.	Revocation-Dept of Corrections	110	110		
5.	Bad Check cases	193	193		
6.	Juvenile cases opened	117	117		
7.	Involuntary Commitments	42	42		
8.	Post Conviction Relief cases	8	8		
9.	Child Abuse & Neglect petitions filed	39	39		
10.	Bail revocation cases filed	87	87		

Performance Measures		Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected
Measure		FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
1.	Increase use of victim/witness questionnaire to 90%				
2.	Percent convicted of offense				
3.	Goal of plea to the "top count" 100%				

#### Comments